

**Senate Appropriations Committee
Chairman – Senator Ray Holmberg
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Testimony

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SB 2345

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, my name is Dan Jonasson and I am the Public Works Director for the City of Minot.

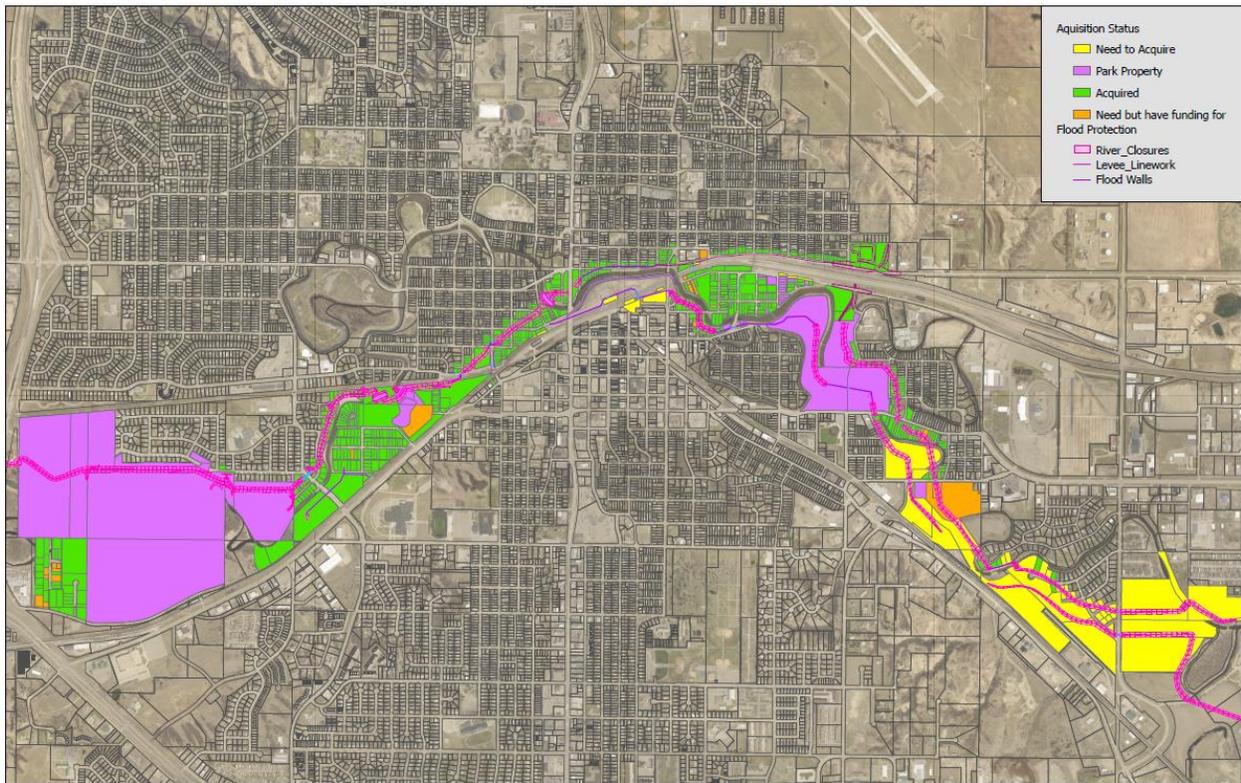
The City of Minot is requesting \$25 million from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (“ARPA”) funds to advance the acquisitions of property necessary to complete the Milestone 2 and Milestone 3 portions of the Mouse River Enhanced Flood Protection Project (“MREFPP”). Advancing these dollars now will enable us to acquire properties that will provide closure to residents waiting for buyout of their otherwise “unsellable” property and relieve them of the high costs they are paying for flood insurance.

Many of these properties are residential properties and the residents are unable to sell them due to because they have been identified as needed to be acquired in the future for flood protection. No one wants to buy a house or property with the uncertainty of when it will be needed for the flood protection project. Many of these residents have asked to be bought out due to this. We could complete the acquisitions for Milestones 2 and 3 with \$25 million. These people could have closure with right-of-way reserved for the future flood control phases and milestones.

Milestone 2 consists of the downtown floodwalls between Broadway Bridge and Roosevelt park, which is identified as MI-6. This portion of the project consists of floodwalls, road closures, levees and a storm water pump station. The next portion of flood control which makes up Milestone 2 is MI-7, which starts at the east end of MI-6 in Roosevelt park at the storm water pump station and continues through Roosevelt park and Roosevelt zoo to Burdick expressway. MI-7 will again consist of levees and floodwalls as the available real estate in this area for flood control is limited and will have a large impact on the Roosevelt Zoo. The final phase of Milestone 2 is MI-8, which starts at Burdick expressway, and includes the replacement of the bridge on Burdick near the zoo and continues south through Parkview mobile home park. This consists of levees, and a bridge replacement on Burdick or Business Hwy. 2, a major corridor in the heart of Minot. The Parkview mobile home park has approximately 140 mobile homes which will require acquisition and relocation.

Milestone 2, when complete, would remove an additional 15% of residents in the new FEMA flood plain.

\$25 million dollars would provide the ability to acquire all of the properties needed for all of milestone 2 to proceed in the next 5 years as funding is allocated. We can also acquire all residential properties in milestone 3, giving closure to residents waiting for the purchase of their property who are willing to sell.



Yellow shaded properties denote acquisitions still needed for MREFPP inside Minot.

Milestone 2 of the MREFPP

